

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER
PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE) should not and must refrain from making inappropriate references to Members of the Senate.

ON THE DEATH OF DR. ELIZABETH
KARNES

(Mr. TERRY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TERRY. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor today with a heavy heart. I am here to express the sadness and loss all Nebraskans feel at the passing of a selfless leader and volunteer, Dr. Liz Karnes.

Dr. Karnes embodied the best values of our State. Her good deeds and commitment to public service are greatly admired. She is well known for her 17 years of service on the District 66 School Board in Omaha and her work as a member of the Omaha Airport Authority, and her national policy work on behalf of children and schools.

But she is most known and committed to her finest work, raising her four daughters.

A 1967 graduate of Westside herself, Karnes went on to earn her doctoral degree in education administration. Along the way she graduated magna cum laude from the University of Nebraska, where she met her future husband, Dave Karnes. When Senator Karnes was appointed a U.S. Senator, Dr. Karnes accompanied her husband to Washington and worked as a volunteer assistant to First Lady Barbara Bush to advocate literacy.

□ 1015

In March 1991, Dr. Karnes was diagnosed with ovarian cancer. She began a courageous battle against the disease and she would survive. But in 2001 she developed kidney cancer which led to the complications that claimed her life late last week.

Dr. Karnes heroically fought cancer and its complications for 12 years. Her faith in God and the loving support of her family, friends, and colleagues kept her spirits strong, but Dr. Karnes was the real fighter. She continued to attend meetings and family events throughout her ordeal. She did not let her cancer come between her and her family, her work or her advocacy for the issues she believed in. Today we must redefine our definition of the word "hero." Our heroes are closer to us. They are visible. They are walking among us. Dr. Karnes is such a hero.

UNBORN VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE
ACT

(Mr. PITTS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, 84 percent of Americans say they think Scott Peterson should be held responsible for the deaths of his wife, Lacy, and their unborn son, Connor. I agree. Criminals who kill an unborn baby in the act of a crime should be held accountable.

On January 1, 1999, Deanna Mitts was 8 months pregnant. And after celebrating New Year's with her family, Deanna, her 3 year old daughter, Kayla, and her unborn daughter, were killed by a bomb explosion in their Connersville, Pennsylvania home.

Joseph Miner, the father of the unborn child was arrested for Deanna and Kayla's murders but is not being held criminally liable for the death of the unborn child. That is not right.

If Scott Peterson should be held accountable, so should Joseph Miner. The Unborn Victims of Violence Act would make sure that Joseph answers to all 3 of these deaths under Federal law. The bill would protect the innocent and defenseless against crime, and it would hold accountable the Scott Petersons and Joseph Miners of this world. I urge the House to support the Unborn Victims of Violence Act.

FAITH-BASED ORGANIZATIONS
AND THE AIDS EPIDEMIC

(Mr. PENCE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, there is an epidemic of AIDS and HIV in Africa that can be described as a pandemic on that continent, 42 million infected with HIV, 8,500 deaths every day, entire villages in Africa where there is no single living adult.

Yesterday as I sat in the East Room of the White House, I heard President Bush describe a compassionate vision of moral obligation for the American people addressing this crisis that would bring with it not only \$15 billion over 5 years, but to put a priority on the values of the American people, abstinence and monogamy, and then condom distribution, and would protect faith-based organizations in the process.

Sadly, Mr. Speaker, unless the House amends the bill we will consider tomorrow, the global AIDS bill will not reflect the values of the American people or the vision of the President of the United States of America. President Bush was right when he said we will not pass on the other side of the road, citing the good Samaritan in this crisis. But as we decide whether we will support abstinence first and protect the role of faith-based organizations in Africa, let us remember the good Samaritan not only stopped and provided money, but he took the man to a place where he could be made whole.

Faith-based organizations and those timeless values are such a place and I urge support of the Pitts and Smith amendments.

STOP UNNECESSARY MEDICATION
OF CHILDREN

(Mr. BURNS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BURNS. Mr. Speaker, today the House will consider H.R. 1350, Improving Results for Children With Disabilities Act of 2003. This bill contains a broadly supported bipartisan provision that I have offered during full committee markup.

There is a significant problem facing children and their parents throughout the Nation. Some schools are actually requiring parents to place their child on drugs in order to attend school. This is wrong. My provision is not anti-school. It is not anti-teacher. It is not anti-medication. This provision is pro-children and pro-parents. This provision simply protects our children from unnecessary medication and it provides parents the decision-making power that they should have for their child's safety.

I urge my colleagues to support this and other sensible provisions contained in H.R. 1350.

SALUTING SERVICE ACADEMY
STUDENTS

(Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise this morning to salute our soldiers of tomorrow. That is the service-bound academy students of the Third District of the Texas. This district of Texas is home to some of the best and the brightest young people, and it is always an honor to recommend such fine students to our Nation's service actions.

On the heels of our swift victory in Iraq, I know they are ready to join the premier military force of the world. This year, north Texas is going to send five students to the United States Military Academy; two to the United States Naval Academy; four to the United States Air Force Academy; four to the Merchant Marine Academy with students hailing from Allen, Frisco, Garland, Plano and Richardson.

I think that this is something that every student wants to do. They want to become a member of the defense of our country.

The 15 appointees and their hometowns are as follows:

U.S. MILITARY ACADEMY

Brittany Ladner—Allen, Texas—Allen High School.

Chad Lorenz—Richardson, Texas—Home School.

Jennifer MacGibbon—Plano, Texas—Plano Senior High School.

Andrew Moore—Plano, Texas—Plano West Senior High School.

Nathan Navarro—Frisco, Texas—Frisco High School.

U.S. NAVAL ACADEMY

Eric McBee—Plano, Texas—Plano Senior High School.

Marcus Walters—Richardson, Texas—Pearce High School.

U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY

David Andrews—Richardson, Texas—Plano Senior High School.

Brian Campbell—Garland, Texas—Jesuit Preparatory School.

Benton Hall—Plano, Texas—Plano Senior High School.

Ronda Helart—Plano, Texas—Home School.

U.S. MERCHANT MARINE ACADEMY

Brendon Ball—Plano, Texas—Plano East Senior High School.

John Harman—Garland, Texas—Naaman Forest High School.

Scott Hughes—Plano, Texas—Plano West Senior High School.

Kartik Parmar—Plano, Texas—Plano Senior High School.

To these 15 appointees I say, God bless you. God bless America. I salute you.

IMPROVING EDUCATION RESULTS FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 2003

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, by the direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 206 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 206

Resolved, That at any time after the adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1350) to reauthorize the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and the Workforce. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. It shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Education and the Workforce now printed in the bill. The committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be considered as read. All points of order against the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute are waived. No amendment to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be in order except those printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution. Each amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. All points of order against such amendments are waived. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. Any Member may demand a separate vote in the House on any amendment adopted in the Committee of the

Whole to the bill or to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). The gentleman from Texas (Mr. SESSIONS) is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, for the purposes of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purposes of debate only.

Mr. Speaker, the Committee on Rules met yesterday afternoon and granted a structured rule for H.R. 1350, Improving Education Results for Children With Disabilities Act of 2003. This rule makes a total of 14 amendments in order, including 3 minority and 1 bipartisan amendment. I am very proud of not only the Committee on Rules, but also the Committee on Education and the Workforce for preserving the greatest hallmarks for democracy while setting the stage for today's votes on H.R. 1350. I believe inclusion, deliberation and full participation was achieved in making sure that this important Act is brought forward.

Mr. Speaker, since I want original enactment in 1975, the purpose of IDEA has been to ensure free appropriate education is achieved nationwide for disabled students. When IDEA was first enacted, this was the goal. Today we are here to improve upon the things that we learned since the last IDEA reauthorization in 1997.

As you know, Mr. Speaker, as through IDEA, the Federal Government is, in fact, authorized to cover 40 percent of the costs that schools nationwide spend to educate special needs students. However, the Federal Government today picks up only about 18 percent of the total cost of educating our special needs students and we must do better than that.

The good news this year, Mr. Speaker, is that the budget agreement reached by the House and the Senate this month includes an increase of \$2.2 billion for special education in 2004. This unprecedented funding to increase for special education programs means that the Federal share of the special education will be brought up to 21 percent this year. The good work for the Committee on the Budget this year also establishes a clear pattern to reach our State goal of funding fully 40 percent of the total cost of the special needs education within the next 7 years.

Mr. Speaker, I am very proud of the fact that from fiscal year 1996 to fiscal year 2003, overall IDEA funding has increased by nearly 21 percent, from \$3.2 billion to \$10 billion annually. In fact, the 2003 funding level is more than a 15 percent increase over the 2002 funding level. This is a positive trend and proves that we are serious about at-

taining our goals and meeting our commitment to special education needs. But there is so much more that this bill does, more than just increasing funding. And I would like to provide some of the major provisions of H.R. 1350 where Members of Congress will be able to see that this committee and the committee work that was done not only by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BOEHNER) but also the subcommittee chairman, the gentleman from Delaware (Mr. CASTLE) really has made a difference in the life and ongoing life of IDEA.

The underlying bill ensures that State will align their accountability systems for students with disabilities to the No Child Left Behind Act system and requires each child's Individual Education Plan, known as an IEP, to specifically address that child's academic achievement.

H.R. 1350 makes significant changes to the Department of Education's activities on research of special education, establishes a center for special education research within the Institute of Education Science and authorizes the creation of a commissioner for special education research to oversee the Institute's research into special education and related services.

It incorporates elements of the gentleman from Florida's (Mr. KELLER) Paperwork Reduction Bill, H.R. 464, including the 3-year individualized education plan known as IEP; it creates a 10-State pilot program that allows State to reduce the IEP paperwork burden on teachers in order to increase instructional time and resources and improves results for disabled students.

For these and so many other reasons, Mr. Speaker, I have ask that you and each of my 434 other colleagues join me in supporting the dream of the greatest realization of our beloved, compassionate and democratic Nation. The realization that we have inherent worth and that here in America we will provide opportunity, love and compassion for every single one of our children.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. I want to thank the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SESSIONS) for yielding me time.

Mr. Speaker, partisan battles are nothing new on the floor of this House, but there are many matters where broad bipartisan agreement and good will have traditionally been the rule. Education for disabled and special needs children has been one of those issues notable for its profound bipartisan consensus.

□ 1030

Therefore, it is a sad day for this House as we consider the rule for H.R. 1350, the IDEA reauthorization. This is not a bipartisan rule, and this bill certainly does not reflect a broad bipartisan consensus. If anything, H.R. 1350